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Thursday, March 30, 2017 metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPhilly



IS ALICIA TRULY MAKEUP-FREE?

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PAYING FOR PRIVACY

MIT researchers have developed a system that could give you online protection, but it's not going to be a free download. 4



2017 subaru
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Sakura Sunday, April 9

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Fairmount Park Horticulture Center

a project of the Japan America Society of Greater Philadelphia

UK PRIME MINISTER TRIGGERS BREXIT

Prime Minister Theresa May formally began Britain's divorce from the European Union on Wednesday, declaring there was no turning back and ushering in a tortuous exit process that will test the bloc's cohesion and pitch her country into the unknown. In one of the most significant steps by a British leader since World War II, May notified EU Council President Donald Tusk in a hand-delivered



letter that Britain would quit the club it joined in 1973. "The United Kingdom is leaving the European Union," May told parliament nine months after Britain shocked investors and world leaders by unexpectedly voting to quit the bloc. "This is an historic moment from which there can be no turning back." **REUTERS**

IVANKA BECOMES UNPAID WHITE HOUSE EMPLOYEE

Ivanka Trump said she would work in the White House in an unpaid, informal advisory role to the president as she sought to allay ethics concerns about working there. "I have heard the concerns some have with my advising the president in my personal capacity while voluntarily complying with all ethics rules and I will instead serve as an unpaid employee in the White House office, subject

to all of the same rules as other federal employees," she said in a statement. Questions about possible conflicts of interest arose after it was announced on March 20 that Trump, 35, would become an informal adviser to her father, President Donald Trump, with an office in the West Wing. She has been an increasingly influential adviser to the president and her husband, Jared Kushner, is a powerful Trump adviser. **REUTERS**

CAR TRIES TO MOW DOWN OFFICERS NEAR CAPITOL

A woman was arrested near the U.S. Capitol in Washington after police said she drove erratically, crashed into another vehicle and tried to run over officers on Wednesday. No one was hurt during the morning commotion, during which police fired shots, and the incident did not appear related to terrorism, Capitol Police spokeswoman Eva Malecki told reporters. "Although pre-



liminary, this incident appears criminal in nature with no nexus to terrorism," Malecki said at a news conference. **REUTERS**

5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

SENATE INTELLIGENCE NEWS CONFERENCE ON RUSSIA

Senate Intelligence Chairman Richard Burr, R-NC, right, and Senate Intelligence Vice Chair Mark Warner, D-Va., hold a news conference in the Capitol on Wednesday, to provide an update on the committee's investigation of Russian interference in the 2016 election. **GETTY IMAGES**

150 MIGRANTS FEARED DEAD AFTER BOAT SINKS

A rubber boat packed with migrants sank in the Mediterranean and the presumed sole survivor — a 16-year-old Gambian boy — told rescuers he believed all other passengers drowned, the International Migration Organization said. A humanitarian vessel, the *Iuventa*, found the boy hanging onto a fuel tank in the sea on Tuesday. He was transferred first to an Italian Coast Guard ship, then to

a Spanish frigate and brought to the Sicilian island of Lampedusa early on Wednesday. "He said that everyone else died. But there's some hope that the Italian Coast Guard picked up others," said IOM spokesman Flavio Di Giacomo in Rome, after speaking to staff in Lampedusa. It should become clear on Thursday whether others survived, as a Coast Guard vessel disembarks migrants in eastern Sicily that day, he said. **REUTERS**

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ALEXIS SACHDEV, WEB REPORTER

It costs around \$136,000 — a day — to keep Melania and Barron safe in NYC. But what's the potential cost of growing up in the White House and in the national spotlight for a child? A psychologist weighs in at metro.us/news.

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Maloumian—the area's most trusted Oriental Rug Authority—is moving its showrooms to Florida



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You want real web privacy? Get ready to pay for it

An MIT-led research project has developed a system that would better protect a web user's anonymity, but would likely come with a fee.



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As government chisels away at internet privacy protections, researchers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Stanford University have developed a system they say will give you more anonymity in cyberspace.

The catch: You'll probably have to pay for it.

To start with, it's important to remember that every single thing you type online gets stored as data, no matter what kind of web protection software you own.

Sites like Google, Yelp, Kayak and others translate each request as a query, which gets stored in a database center.

With that in mind, the MIT-led research group has developed Splinter, a system that cuts the cord on that data flow without having to mask or delete the actual information.

Splinter allows websites to encrypt a user's internet searches so they're never saved. The data is still out there, but is split among multiple database centers. That scrambles the search information a person has entered, preventing the websites from gathering information about the person who made the request.

"Data is floating around everywhere, so if



you have anything on the internet, anyone can learn about it at some point. That's scary," said Frank Wang, an MIT graduate student who helped develop Splinter. "Your internet service provider is learning about you, so [we said], 'How can we leak the least amount of information?'"

Now, about that catch: Instead of relying on internet service providers to look out for your privacy, Splinter puts the power of protection into the hands of web services. The consumer cannot install the software. It's a system

each company would have to incorporate into their own site.

Because consumers are demanding more privacy in their web browsing, they may be willing to pay for the privilege. And companies may be willing to satisfy that demand.

With Splinter, services could charge a nominal fee for queries, like, maybe \$5 a month. Wang said using Splinter costs a web service less than 2 cents per search.

"Web services could say, 'Hey, I charge you to

[search for a flight], but I won't release any of that information or use your data," Wang said.

David O'Brien, a senior researcher at Harvard's Berkman Center for Internet & Society, said the concept could open a window.

"It's been discussed for years now and could be one alternative path," he said. The problem, though, is that payment for privacy "hasn't been supported by demand and maybe won't ever be."

But more people are demanding privacy, especially in the wake of both

the U.S. House and Senate voting to repeal internet privacy protections adopted by the Federal Communications Commission during the Obama administration. That means that internet service providers like Comcast and AT&T would be able to share or sell information from a web user without that user's permission.

Now more than ever, Wang said, "users are starting to care more about privacy, and the government is not regulating it as much as [people] wanted them too."

So what can you do, for free, to protect your privacy?

The best way to protect yourself is to practice abstinence, virtually, said David O'Brien of Harvard's Berkman Center for Internet & Society.

"Unfortunately, the simplest answer is don't use online services," O'Brien said. "For most people, that doesn't really fly. Short of that, a lot of services you can use obscure your identity online."

Aside from that, O'Brien and MIT researcher Frank Wang suggested using Tor, a system that links your internet connection to multiple servers, placed all around the country or even the world. This means that when you go to a website like Google, it looks, to that website, "as if you're coming from multiple different countries with each query you send."

Another service, DuckDuckGo, is a search engine that promises not to track your queries.

Your computer or smart device's "Incognito" mode can be used in conjunction with these programs to provide a bit more privacy. It protects against targeted advertisements, but doesn't prevent companies from obtaining important data about the searches themselves.

In the end, O'Brien said, true privacy may be a dream. "It's hard to be truly anonymous on the internet. It might even be impossible."

So there's an opportunity for web services to differentiate themselves and say, "We have a private offering."

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Witness to Innocence executive director Magdaleno Rose-Avila stands next to a statue of Mary Dyer, a woman who was executed in Boston for defying a law banning Quakers from that city. HAYDEN MITTMAN

No longer on death row but still fighting for life

Exonerated death row inmates get help outside the prison walls from Philadelphia-based nonprofit.



HAYDEN MITTMAN
@MetroPhilly
letters@metro.us

Kwame Ajamu spent 27 years in prison for a murder he didn't commit.

Exonerated in 2014, the former death row inmate is now 59 years old, and intent on sharing his story to anyone who will listen. It is a cautionary tale, he said, and hopefully one that will help others realize how many innocent lives could be saved by eliminating capital punishment.

Ajamu, who lives in Cleveland, has been working with the Philadelphia-based nonprofit, Witness to Innocence, which seeks to end the death penalty by supporting legislation against it, while also assisting former death row inmates who have been exonerated.

Ajamu joined Witness to Innocence shortly after his release, and shortly after finding out about the organization.

"If there was any way I could give back by being an ambassador against the death penalty... I wanted to be on that train," he said in an interview Wednesday from his home in Cleveland.

When he was 17, Ajamu was wrongfully convicted of killing another man in 1975, and sentenced to death. Decades later, he was exonerated after the lone witness to the crime recanted his testimony.

Now, Ajamu serves as a board member of Witness to Innocence and chairman of its emergency fund, which supports exonerated individuals as they adjust to life outside the prison walls.

Ajamu is among several exonerated individuals

and their family members, who serve on the 10-member board, said executive director Magdaleno "Leno" Rose-Avila. The others are lawyers and authors, Rose-Avila said, all interested in ending the death penalty.

Formed in 2005, Witness to Innocence was the subject of a short documentary, "The Gathering," which was shown last month in New York at the NYC Socially Relevant Film Festival.

Rose-Avila said he hopes to eventually make the film available to the public.

It includes stories of survival from men who have been exonerated. Men like Ajamu, who said his time spent with Witness to Innocence "gave me wings" by letting him share his message.

It's important work, Ajamu said, noting that he firmly believes there are still innocent individuals incarcerated and on death row in prisons throughout the country.

Rose-Avila agreed. "There's a lot of people held by the courts that are completely innocent," he said on Wednesday, at the Cherry Street office of Witness to Innocence, a couple of blocks from Thomas Paine Plaza.

At Witness to Innocence, he said, members travel around the country, trying to eliminate the death penalty and help reform the criminal justice system. Recent efforts include campaigns in Nebraska and California.

Another effort the group has undertaken is trying to get states to allow those who have been wrongly convicted, incarcerated and put on death row access to funding reserved for crime victims.

"When you get out of prison, you don't get any money, you don't get any opportunities, you don't get nothing," Rose-Avila said. "Why shouldn't they have access to these funds? They are victims of the same individual."

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Live Nation mentioned as operator of renovated Met Opera House

Developer Eric Blumenfeld hinted that the entertainment giant could turn the historic building into a concert venue.



GARY KANE
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gary.kane@metro.us

Live Nation is close to an agreement to operate the city's historic Metropolitan Opera House as a concert venue after an ambitious renovation project is completed.

Live Nation, based in Beverly Hills, California, didn't respond to an email requesting comment on the deal. However, the developer of the renovation project indicated to the architectural committee of the Philadelphia Historical Commission on Tuesday that the entertainment giant is interested in the opera house.

"Right now, our focus is on making Live Nation happy," the developer, Eric Blumenfeld, told the committee, according to the real estate blog Curbed Philly.

Live Nation already operates the Theater of the Living Arts on South Street, Fillmore Philadelphia in Fishtown and the Tower Theater in Upper Darby.

Blumenfeld's EB Realty plans \$35 million in renovations to the opera house, which was built in 1908 by Oscar Hammerstein, grandfather of the renowned lyricist in the team of Rodgers and Hammerstein.

The building, which has a 4,000-person seating capacity, has been used as a movie theater, ballroom and circus venue over the years.

Blumenfeld and the Holy Ghost Headquarters Church bought the building in 2013 for one dollar. The church no longer uses the property, but still shares ownership.

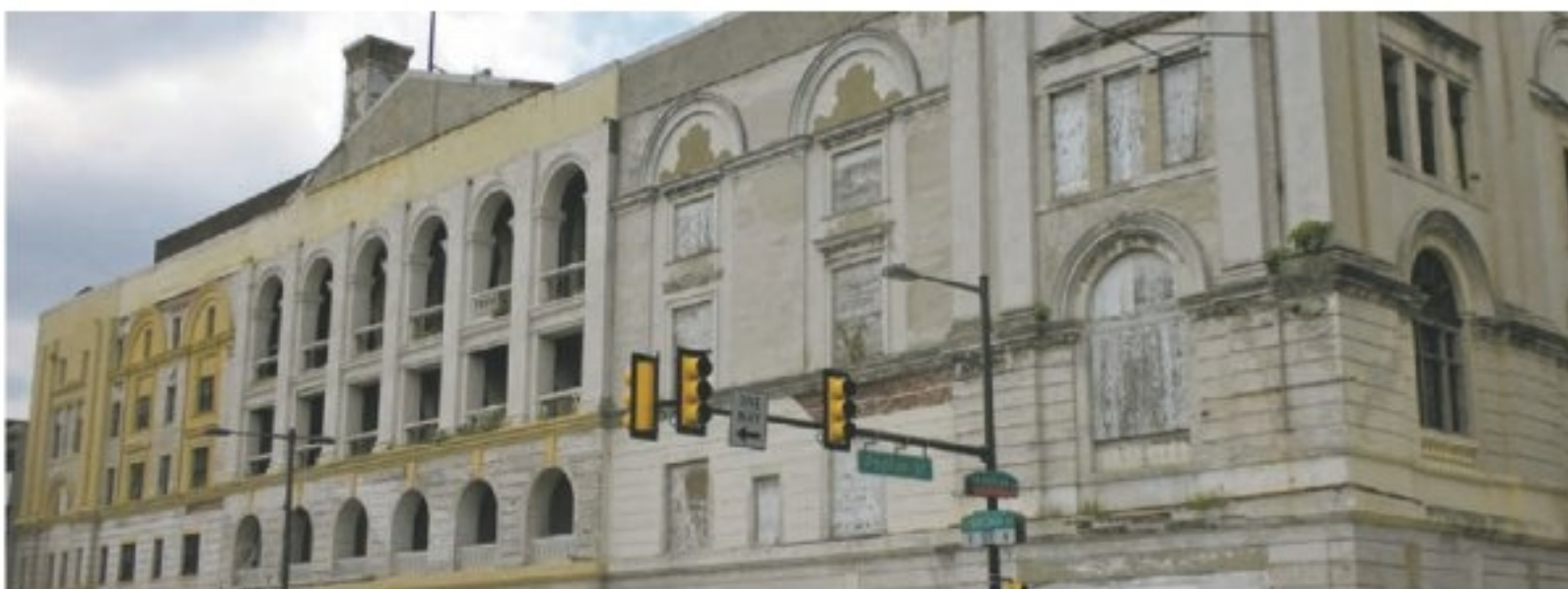
The architectural committee approved plans for four illuminated signs that will be installed on the North Broad Street façade of the building. The signs will identify the building as the "Met."

The committee also urged the developer to attempt restoration of the structure's parapet and to design a 10-foot-high HVAC unit on the roof to be as inconspicuous as possible, Curbed Philly reported.

The opera house is but one of the projects on North Broad Street being developed by Blumenfeld and real estate financier Billy Procidia.

They are converting the 124-year-old Divine Lorraine Hotel building into 101 apartments and a boutique hotel. In November, the light atop the hotel was lit up for the first time in 40 years.

Another project involves the renovation a commercial building that Blumenfeld calls the Studebaker building on 667 North Broad Street. He renovated the former Thaddeus Stevens School of Observation at 523 North Broad into a 56-unit apartment building.



The opera house was built in 1908. CREATIVE COMMONS

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"Right now, our focus is on making Live Nation happy."

Eric Blumenfeld

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EXTREME WEATHER

Four dead, about 200,000 without power after Texas, Oklahoma storms

Four people were killed and nearly 200,000 customers were without electric power after overnight storms pounded Texas and Oklahoma, bringing tornadoes, torrential rain and hail to large parts of the states.

Three of those killed were storm chasers trying to track tornadoes in the Texas Panhandle region. They died after their cars slammed into each other near

Spur, 66 miles east of Lubbock, on Tuesday night, police said.

In Oklahoma, a truck driver was killed near El Reno in a rollover crash likely caused by high winds, police said.

There were 15 reports of tornadoes from the storms in Texas, with most of the twisters in the Panhandle and western parts of the state, the National Weather Service said. Hail, some as large as baseballs, pounded Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas overnight causing damage to cars.

The storm system weakened on Wednesday and was forecast to hit the Houston area.

The system took a heavy toll on utilities in North Texas, where provider Oncor said about 150,000 of its customers in the Dallas-Fort Worth area were without power on Wednesday morning. There were also tens of thousands of other customers in Texas and Oklahoma without power, various utilities reported.

The storms did not cause any major delays in flights through

Dallas and Houston, two of the nation's busiest air hubs, tracking service flightaware.com reported.

But it did cause a number of school closures in North Texas where schools were without electricity. Elementary schools in Dallas and Tarrant County, home to Fort Worth, were closed. This caused delays for students taking an annual achievement test in the state known as STAAR, or the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness. **REUTERS**

Former Christie associates get up to two years in prison in 'Bridgegate'



Bridget Kelly



Bill Baroni

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Two former associates of New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie were sentenced to federal prison on Wednesday for their role in the "Bridgegate" lane closure scandal that played a part in torpedoing the Republican's White House ambitions.

Bill Baroni, 45, the former deputy executive director of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, will serve two years, while Bridget Kelly, 44, a former deputy of staff for Christie, received a sentence of one and a half years.

The defendants were found guilty in November of plotting to close down access lanes at the heavily used George Washington Bridge in 2013 in an act of political retribution.

Prosecutors said the massive traffic jam they deliberately created in the town of Fort Lee was intended to punish its Democratic mayor for refusing to back Christie's re-election bid, as the governor's aides tried to burnish his bipartisan credentials ahead of his 2016 presidential

campaign.

Christie has denied any involvement and was not charged. But the scandal tarnished his national profile and saddled him with record-low approval ratings in his home state.

U.S. District Judge Susan Wigenton rejected pleas from defense lawyers to impose probation rather than prison, citing "an outrageous display of abuse of power."

But she agreed with prosecutors that Kelly bore slightly less responsibility than Baroni, New Jersey's highest-ranking official at the Port Authority.

In arguing for leniency, attorneys for Kelly emphasized her status as a single mother of four, while Baroni's lawyers pointed to his long career of public service. Both defendants told Wigenton they felt remorse.

"I respectfully ask that you allow me the opportunity to reconnect with my children and rebuild our lives," a tearful Kelly said.

REUTERS

"I respectfully ask that you allow me the opportunity to reconnect with my children and rebuild our lives."

Kelly

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Chipotle defeats class action lawsuit on overtime pay

Denver-based Chipotle, which operates more than 2,000 U.S. restaurants

A federal judge on Wednesday granted a bid by Chipotle Mexican Grill Inc. to undo a class action lawsuit by manager trainees in six states who say they were unlawfully denied overtime pay.

U.S. District Judge Andrew Carter in Manhattan said the former Chipotle "apprentices" from New York, Illinois and four other states had varying duties depending on where they worked and could not show they were all eligible for overtime pay.

The plaintiffs in the 2012 lawsuit said that when they worked in the temporary, salaried positions training to manage new restaurants, they often performed basic tasks that could be assigned to hourly workers. That entitled them to overtime pay under state wage laws, the workers said.

Carter's decision blocks the seven workers who filed the lawsuit from representing a class of more than 500 people, which could end



People walk past a Chipotle restaurant on Broadway in New York City. GETTY IMAGES

the case altogether.

The company's victory on Wednesday came as it faced a larger 2014 lawsuit filed in federal court in Colorado by 10,000 hourly workers who say they were required to work off the clock for no pay. A U.S. appeals court in Colorado on Monday rejected Chipotle's bid to undo the nationwide class of workers in that case.

Unlike most other fast food chains that operate on a franchise model, Chipotle owns its restaurants and is responsible for wages and other employment decisions.

Salaried workers like the Chipotle apprentices are automatically eligible for overtime pay under federal law if they earn less than \$23,660. Employees who earn

more must be paid overtime if they do not have management or administrative duties.

Last year, a federal judge blocked a controversial Obama administration rule that would have doubled the salary threshold to about \$47,500 and extended overtime pay to more than four million workers.

The U.S. Department of Labor appealed the judge's ruling, but it is unclear whether the administration of President Donald Trump will pursue the case.

Trump's nominee for U.S. labor secretary, R. Alexander Acosta, told a U.S. Senate panel last week that he had not made a decision about how to proceed on the rule, but was concerned about its impact on businesses and workers. REUTERS

BRIEFS

At least 12 killed after Texas church bus crash

At least 12 people were killed and three others injured when a Texas church bus carrying senior citizens had a head-on collision with another vehicle on Wednesday, a Texas state trooper said.

The church bus had 14 people aboard when it collided with a pickup truck, with one person in that vehicle. The cause of the crash was still under investigation, said Sergeant Conrad Hein, a Texas Department of Public Safety spokesman.

The accident took place about 80 miles west of San Antonio.

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott and his wife extended their condolences to the victims.

"We are saddened by the loss of life and our hearts go out to all those affected," he said in a statement.

First Baptist New Braunfels said on its Facebook page a group of senior adults affiliated with the church was involved in the accident. It said they were returning from a three-day retreat. REUTERS

Mexican state attorney general arrested in San Diego on drug charges

The attorney general of Mexico's Pacific coast state of Nayarit, hard hit by drug cartel violence in recent years, has been arrested in San Diego on U.S. narcotics trafficking conspiracy charges, federal officials said.

Edgar Veytia, 45, who has served as the top law enforcement officer of Nayarit since 2013, was charged in a seven-page, three-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Monday in the New York borough of Brooklyn and unsealed on Tuesday.

He was taken into custody on Monday in San Diego by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Drug Enforcement Administration and Homeland Security Investigations, acting on an arrest warrant, an FBI spokeswoman in San Diego said.

Veytia was arraigned in U.S. District Court in San Diego, the FBI spokeswoman, Davene Butler, told Reuters. REUTERS

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Judge to consider objection to Trump University settlement

A U.S. judge will hear arguments on Thursday over whether to grant final approval to a \$25 million settlement of fraud lawsuits against President Donald Trump over his Trump University real estate investment seminars, with at least one former student objecting to the deal.

Sherri Simpson of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, who paid \$19,000 to learn Trump's investing "secrets," filed court papers earlier this month arguing the class action settlement should not have contained a provision barring her and other students from opting out and suing Trump on their own.

The objection raises the possibility the litigation could continue to dog Trump's presidency. During the campaign, Trump vowed to fight the fraud claims but agreed to the settlement soon after the election. Under the deal, Trump admitted no

wrongdoing.

Lawyers for Trump and those representing thousands of other students in two class actions will urge U.S. District Judge Gonzalo Curiel in San Diego to overrule the objection and approve the deal.

The students, who paid as much as \$35,000 for the seminars, are expected to recover more than 80 percent of the money they paid.

Though Simpson's lawyer, Gary Friedman, called the settlement "laudable," he said his client wanted to press for a full recovery, as well as punitive damages and other relief. He is planning to argue the deal should be rejected unless she is allowed to do so.

"What Ms. Simpson seeks is her day in court," Friedman said in court papers.

Simpson and other students claim they were lured into the seminars by false promises that they would learn Trump's



investment strategies from his "hand-picked" instructors. Trump admitted he did not personally select the instructors but said the claim was sales "puffery."

Rachel Jensen, a class action lawyer for the students, said in a court filing that some 3,730 students submitted claim forms. Two filed objections but only Simpson's lawyers are expected at the hearing.

In court papers, both Jensen and Daniel Petrocelli, a lawyer for Trump, suggested Simpson's objection might be politically motivated. They noted she appeared in an anti-Trump political ad in February 2016. **REUTERS**

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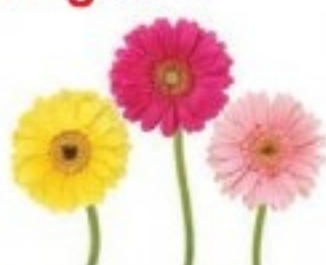
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Montana tribe sues administration for lifting coal moratorium

A Native American tribe in Montana filed a lawsuit against the Trump administration on Wednesday, challenging its decision to lift a moratorium on coal leases on public land without first consulting with tribal leaders.

The Northern Cheyenne Tribe, located in southern Montana, said the administration lifted the moratorium without hearing the tribe's concerns about the impact the coal-leasing program has on the tribe, its members and lands.

Earlier this month, the tribe sent a letter to Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke, who signed the order lifting the moratorium on Tuesday, asking to meet with him to discuss the issue. Zinke did not respond to the letter.

"It is alarming and



Tribal Chairman Jace Killsback
FACEBOOK

unacceptable for the United States, which has a solemn obligation as the Northern Cheyenne's trustee, to sign up for many decades of harmful coal mining near and around our homeland without first consulting with our Nation," Tribal Chairman Jace Killsback said.

Although coal leasing

can resume on federal lands, Killsback said the tribe, which filed the lawsuit in U.S. District Court in Great Falls, Montana, will bear the brunt of the impact.

"The Northern Cheyenne rarely shares in the economic benefits to the region generated by coal industry and other energy development projects," he said.

Approximately 426 million tons of federal coal are located near the Northern Cheyenne Reservation at the Decker and Spring Creek mines in Montana, the tribe said.

Neighboring tribe, the Crow, rely on coal production to support their local economy and have called for the relaxation of coal regulations for years. **REUTERS**



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State Department employee charged in making contacts with Chinese agents

A U.S. State Department employee with access to sensitive information was accused of failing to report contacts with Chinese foreign intelligence agents who provided her with gifts in exchange for diplomatic and economic information, federal prosecutors said on Wednesday.

Candace Claiborne, 60, was charged in a Washington federal court with obstruction of justice and making false statements to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Claiborne appeared before a magistrate judge with her lawyer, David Bos, but both declined to speak to reporters. Claiborne will remain confined to house arrest until an April 18 preliminary hearing.

A complaint said Claiborne was given tens

of thousands of dollars in gifts and wire transfers by Chinese agents beginning in 2011 in exchange for information about U.S. economic policy in relation to China and other diplomatic matters.

Claiborne and a co-conspirator not identified in court papers received such items as beads, a sewing machine, slippers cash, tuition payments to a fashion school in China and an all-expenses paid vacation to Thailand, prosecutors allege.

"When a public servant is suspected of potential misconduct or federal crimes that violate the public trust, we vigorously investigate such claims," said State Department spokesman Mark Toner.

The charges against Claiborne were an-

nounced just ahead of an April 6-7 meeting between President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping at a time of heightened tensions between the world's two largest economies over North Korea, the South China Sea, Taiwan and trade. Trump was critical of China during the 2016 presidential campaign.

U.S. officials have accused China of cyber hacking of U.S. government agencies and American companies in recent years.

Claiborne, 60, "allegedly failed to report her contacts with Chinese foreign intelligence agents who provided her with thousands of dollars of gifts and benefits," said U.S. Acting Assistant Attorney General Mary McCord. **REUTERS**

Study: Heroin use, addiction up sharply among US whites

Whites aged 18 to 44 accounted for the biggest rise in heroin addiction, which has been fueled in part by the misuse of opioid prescription drugs.



Heroin use in the United States has risen five-fold in the past decade and dependence on the drug has more than tripled, with the biggest jumps among whites and men with low incomes and little education, researchers said.

The findings are troubling because the people most affected have few resources to deal with the problem, said Dr. Silvia Martins, an associate professor of epidemiology at Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, and her colleagues.

"We are seeing that heroin use has increased in the past 10 years," Martins said in a phone interview. "It is more prominent among whites with lower incomes and education and young adults."

Heroin use, which includes those who have tried the drug but not become dependent on it,

and addiction also rose more among unmarried adults. Although a jump was seen among women, it was not as prominent as for men.

The researchers found no differences in heroin use or addiction among the major regions of the country.

The findings, published online in the journal JAMA Psychiatry, followed a statement from the American College of Physicians calling for drug addiction and substance abuse disorders to be treated as a chronic medical condition like diabetes or hypertension.

It also coincided with the expected appointment of New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie to head a federal commission to combat the problem. Christie has declared opioid drug abuse a public health crisis.

Martins agreed drug

addiction should be treated as an illness.

"By recognizing it is a disease, more people will become aware that they need to seek help, or if they are frequent users, to know that addiction is preventable," she said.

Martins and her colleagues uncovered the trend by analyzing two studies, one from 2001-2002 and another from 2012-2013, and data from 43,000 long-term heroin users.

In 2001-2002, there were similar rates of heroin use between whites and non-whites, but by 2013 there was a significant race gap, according to the study.

Martins called for expanding treatment programs, overdose prevention and medication-assisted treatment, and for a change in doctors' prescribing practices for opioids. **REUTERS**

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Jennifer Lawrence and Darren Aronofsky are still a thing

Things are heating up between Jennifer Lawrence and Darren Aronofsky, because age really is just a number, you guys.

A source tells People that nothing can keep this couple down: not an age difference, not long distance and not an anonymous source tipping off a magazine about their romance.

Wonderful! "They are very sweet together and seem happy. They hold hands."

Not notable! The two have reportedly been dating since



September, when Aronofsky, 48 directed Lawrence, 26, in an upcoming film called "Mother!"

They seem to be keeping their relationship pretty low-profile, but they have been spotted "on movie dates and low-key strolls," which again — isn't very notable. They're just like, two chill people in love or whatever. Who also happen to be rich and famous. This kind of thing happens all the time.



Alicia Keys isn't exactly 'makeup-free'

Earlier this week, Adam Levine called out Alicia Keys for wearing makeup. Let's talk about it.

Levine, the second-thirstiest man alive, told Howard Stern that he spotted Keys putting on a bit of makeup, and said aloud, "Oh, I thought Alicia doesn't wear makeup. Keys shot back, saying "I do what the f—k I want," which yeah, duh.

Levine's decision to call out Keys on wearing makeup is probably just rooted in some

good old-fashioned male entitlement. We're talking about a guy who is basically a flesh-colored helium balloon made human, so him making a whole thing of this is not at all surprising.

But! Alicia Keys — who absolutely has the right to do whatever she wants — does wear makeup. Despite being very vocal about her decision to go #no-makeup, it turns out her look isn't so much makeup free as it is a "no-makeup look." Her makeup artist has ad-

mitted to as much, saying "Compared to the world of makeup, there is minimal [coverage]." Which is totally fine! But the two are not the same, so there's that.

Despite maybe misleading us about the makeup issue, the songstress does take her natural, uh, "look" very seriously: She's gone so far as to eliminate cheese from her diet in pursuit of glowing skin and a makeup-free existence. And frankly, that's just a sacrifice the rest of us can't afford to make.

Emma Thompson is fed up with fat-shaming

Emma Thompson, feminist queen and forever Professor Trelawney in my heart, is taking on body-shaming.

The 57-year-old actress appeared on Swedish talk show, "Skavlan," and not so fondly recalled a time when her co-star was criticized for her weight. "There was a wonderful actress in a film I did called 'Bridesead Revisited.' The producer said to her, 'Will you lose some weight?' And she was absolutely exquisite!" She threatened to quit the film if the

producer brought it up again. Get it, girl.

Dear Dumbledore: May we be graced with Emma Thompson's presence forever and ever, amen.



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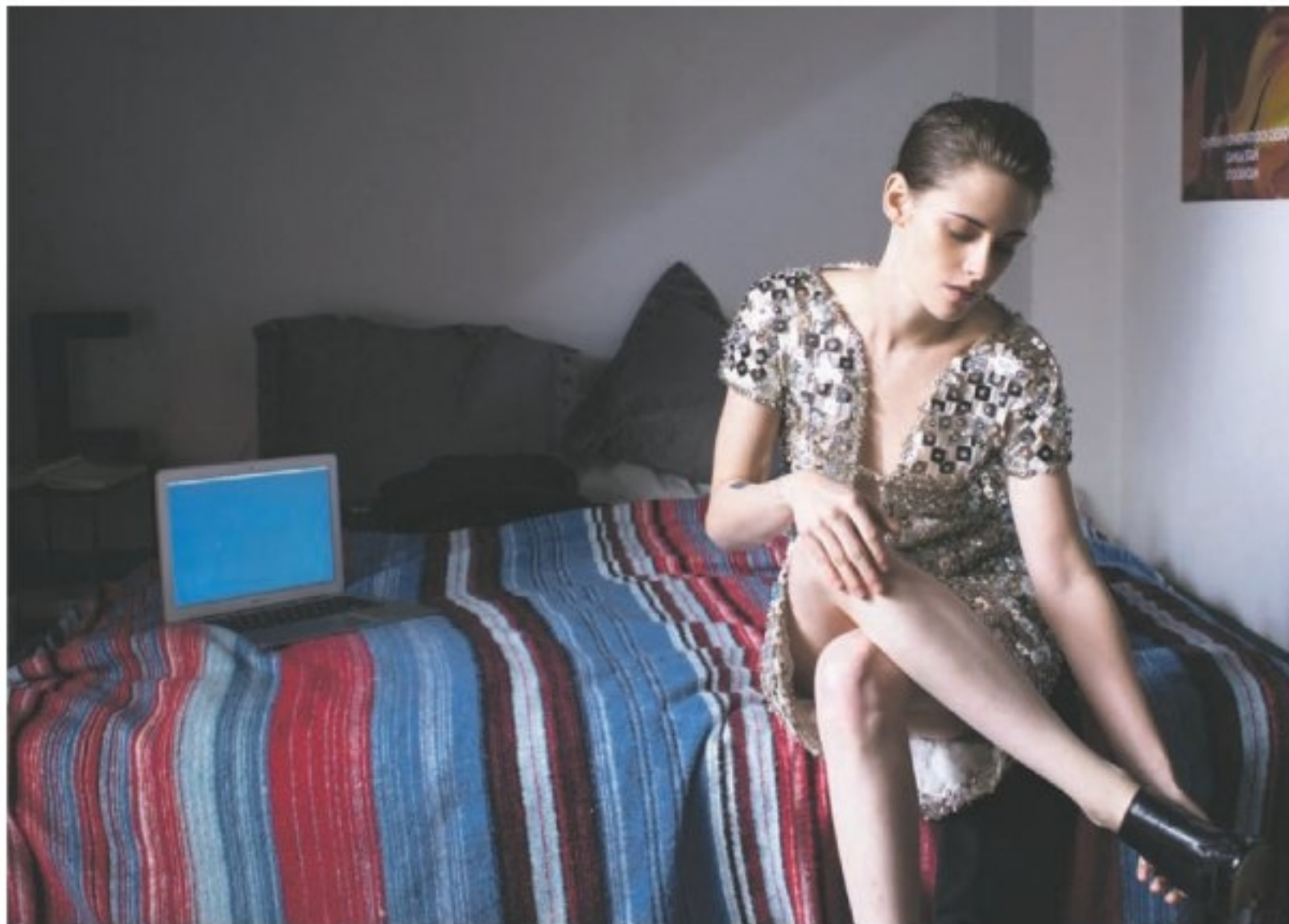
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Olivier Assayas hearts



Kristen Stewart plays a woman trying to connect with the spirit of her dead brother while keeping up her job (picking up high-end clothes for a wealthy client) in Olivier Assayas' "Personal Shopper," now in theaters. **WFC FILMS**

The star's "Clouds of Sils Maria" director talks about reuniting in "Personal Shopper."



MATT PRIGGE
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matt.prigge@metro.us

In 2015, Kristen Stewart won the Cesar — basic-

ly, the French Oscar — for Olivier Assayas' "Clouds of Sils Maria," a European drama where she played the personal assistant to a famous actress (played by Juliette Binoche). It worked out so well, the actress did it again. In "Personal Shopper," she and Assayas reunite to make his version of a ghost movie — which is

to say it's not a horror film but a character study, and also a kind of documentary about Kristen Stewart. The actress plays a woman trying to connect with her recently late brother's spirit. In between she ekes out a living in Paris picking up high-end clothes for a workaholic client.

We talked to the

Spider-Man is just like us

Geek Girl in Hollywood



JENNA BUSCH
legionofleia.com

The thing about Spider-Man is that he's us. He's any of us. I watched the new trailer for "Spider-Man: Homecoming" this morning and it's more obvious in this version of the Marvel superhero than it's been in any of the versions I've seen out there. Peter Parker is a hot mess. He's not just the adorable kid from "Captain America: Civil War" with the cute face and the quippy lines. He's me when I have no idea

what I'm doing. He's your little sister when she follows you around and tries to go to the same birthday party, knowing that no one wants her there. He's your buddy who just doesn't get why they're supposed to turn a blind eye to the bad stuff in the world and maybe talks about it too much.

The thing about Spider-Man is that he sort of bumbles his way to greatness. You can see it in the new trailer. He asks Tony Stark for all the rules about joining the Avengers, even knowing that Tony sort of used him to win the battle. He knows "dad" doesn't want him involved, but he just can't help himself.

It's because he wants to help, the same way your little sister thinks she's helping when she covers the kitchen with flour to help your dad bake cookies.

His friends think what he does is cool, but they just don't understand. Peter feels misunderstood. He just knows he has to do what he does. He hides his new career as a webslinger from Aunt May the way you hid your search for the perfect supersoaker from your Aunt Gladys. It's important for him to save people the way it was important for you to not step on that ant at the picnic.

I know. This sounds



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Kristen Stewart

acclaimed French filmmaker, of movies like "Irma Vep," "Carlos" and "Summer Hours," about working around paparazzi, avoiding Hollywood and his definition of "ghosts."

Kristen Stewart attracts a lot of fans and paparazzi. How did you handle shooting with those crowds around?

When we were shooting on the streets, we ended up having a lot of fan photos on the internet of Kristen on her bike. The paparazzi and fans, somehow they have their ways of knowing where she is. I don't know how they do it, but they have their ways. I try not to think about it. But at some point it becomes annoying, because it's in the way of Kristen's concentration. All of a sudden she's worried by this and that.

But in terms of shooting at the stations, it wasn't a problem. People just don't imagine she would get on a train or be there. We would hide the camera and just put her in the crowd. We would have her wait for a train and she would go into the crowd and walk around on her own while we filmed her. It was kind of fun. And ultimately the difficulty we had was

the kind of difficulty we would have with any similar shot in any similar film, even if we were making a film with an unknown.

There's almost a documentary quality to the film. Sometimes you're simply following her around doing menial things, and the more traditional scenes have a looseness to them, too.

It was about documenting Kristen going through the emotions I have put in motion. Because she's

such an authentic actor. She needs to make everything feel real. In the film you see her building up these emotions. I'm kind of documenting that process.

You have a very different approach from the Hollywood style, which seems more like following a ready-made blue print.

Yeah, but that's not the filmmakers' fault, that's the system. What's depressing is the Hollywood system is so much about control. And there's nothing more boring than control. You're so privileged to make movies. Making movies is fun. It's a pleasure. And Hollywood is all about taking the pleasure out of it. [Laughs] It's too serious. Making movies, even if you're making a serious movie, is always like children playing.

And in movies there is this exciting, collective purpose. You're sharing something with a lot of people. You're giving them the opportunity to a part of something bigger than them, bigger than all of us. There's a real beauty there.

That's what filmmaking is about. And Hollywood kind of spoils that. Ultimately that's the reason I've never [worked in Hollywood]. I'd certainly have a hard time adapting.



GETTY



Tom Holland's Spidey, whose film arrives in theaters on July 7, looks a lot more relatable than the Andrew Garfield incarnation. SONY PICTURES

like a ramble. It's just this crazy reaction I had to the trailer. I haven't had one like it with other Spider-Man films — not since the first one, anyway. Spider-Man wears a mask, so I could totally be him. So could you.

They're not making him cool-but-dorky. He's not really-hot-but-everyone-treats-him-like-he's-a-nerd-because-movies, like the last one. This time around, he really feels like the kid next door. He feels like the guy in class

who has been saving up his super cool joke all day and when he tells it, it falls flat.

He feels like us. It's nice to see someone so ordinary do extraordinary things. It reminds us that we can, too.

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Center City's restaurant landscape is ever-changing and keeping up with all of the latest and greatest spots to dine is a job in itself. But when you're slammed at work and need to make a reservation for your next power lunch, the last thing on your mind is spending valuable time reading over restaurant reviews. That's why we've compiled a list of our top picks for business lunches in Center City, so you can put your focus on closing the deal.

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EAT LIKE AN INSIDER

Jimmy Shen

Jimmy Shen is the owner of Yakitori Boy in Chinatown. ALL PHOTOS PROVIDED

If you're a fan of Chinatown's Yakitori Boy, chances are you already know Jimmy Shen, its vivacious owner and founder. Originally from Guangzhou, China, Shen has been living in Philly for 28 years and has worked his way up from kitchen helper to successful entrepreneur. "Because of the language barrier in America, it was hard to find a job," he says. "So I took a job at a Japanese fast food restaurant. Wanting to provide for my family is what got me into the food industry." The 52-year-old gives us the lowdown on where to eat ramen alone (and not be judged), the best beef brisket noodle soup in town and where we can nosh on bacon quail egg skewers.

Best hidden foodie gem?

Bok Bar (1901 S. 9th St.). Possibly because it is still relatively new, but this rooftop bar is certainly a gem waiting to be discovered. It's a low-key place where you can grab a beer, a banh mi (or any other Asian fusion snacks) and sit back to enjoy the beautiful skyline of the

WHERE TO EAT, DRINK & PLAY



Enjoy pork belly tacos at Aqimero.

sunlight across the street from Rittenhouse at A.kitchen. Awarded three bells by the Philadelphia Inquirer's Craig LaBan, the Rittenhouse Power Lunch menu (\$25) has something for everyone. Choose from starters like olives and cheese, roasted mushroom soup or smoked beets and mains like grilled octopus and roasted chicken breast. 135 S. 18th St. akitchenandbar.com

Scarpetta

Looking for a great one-on-one meal with a view? Be sure to reserve a spot by the window (on the second floor) at Scarpetta

in Rittenhouse. The high-end Italian restaurant offers a prix-fixe lunch menu for only \$28. The three courses include options like chicory salad or creamy polenta as a starter and the much-raved-about spaghetti or organic chicken as the entree. End your meeting on a sweet note with either a coconut panna cotta or chocolate cake. 210 W. Rittenhouse scarpettarestaurants.com

Aqimero

Need a breath of fresh air after spending the whole morning cooped up in the office? Make a reservation at Richard Sandoval's Aqimero, a Latin-fusion restaurant located inside of the Ritz Carlton. The lofty space and lush seating will transport you to a swanky, tropical paradise.

Share some guacamole with the table and enjoy a wide selection of

tacos and ceviches to go along with it. Not feeling adventurous? They have a wood-grilled burger on the menu along with an organic chicken sandwich that you can get with either fries or a salad. 10 Avenue of the Arts aqimero.com

Ruth's Chris Steakhouse

Dining with a larger group? Ruth's Chris has three private dining rooms to choose from — the Spirit Room which can hold up to 25 guests, the Infinity Room which can hold up to 45 guests and the 1800 Degree Room which can hold up to 12 guests. The elegant interior is sure to impress and the menu offers a wide variety of meat and

fish options to satisfy a range of tastes. 1800 Market Street ruthschris.com

XIX Restaurant

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Try the chili-glazed prawns at A.kitchen.



The bacon quail egg skewer at Yakitori Boy is a must try.

Philadelphia.

Best meal under \$10?

Nan Zhou Hand Drawn Noodle House (1022 Race St.). You really can't leave out Chinatown when you're talking about cheap eats. Nobody says you need to pay a fortune to have a tasty meal. Nan Zhou's beef brisket noodle soup is hearty and delicious. I personally like to put in extra pickled cabbage to add that extra crunch and flavor to the soup.

Best late night meal?

Yakitori Boy (211 N. 11th St.). Other than the fact that I work there, I like to have options for my

late-night cravings. At Yakitori Boy, I can sit with my friends and order anything from a big sushi platter to a light bite, like our yakitori skewers. If you're into something light, but fun and delicious, I would suggest our bacon quail-egg skewer.

Best place to dine alone?

The ramen bar at Terakawa (204 N. 9th St.). Traditionally in Japan, ramen is a quick meal down the street. It's where locals go, order their favorite ramen, enjoy the meal by themselves and leave. No one will bother you and no one will judge you because you're alone. Terakawa's ramen bar does just that. My go-to ramen

would be their Signature Terakawa Ramen. When their broth takes almost two days to make, it's really hard to describe its deliciousness in a few words.

Go-to date spot?

Brick and Mortar (315 N. 12th St.). With its ever-changing food and drink menu, Brick and Mortar never gets old. It's cozy and intimate. Everything on the menu is a good pick.

Best place to catch up with friends?

Bud & Marilyn's (1234 Locust St.). Great drinks, great food, great atmosphere.

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B2129 Jesse B Weaver, Artifacts, pictures, dresser.

AD11 Ronald N Burgess, Pressure washer, stand.

B2044 Anthony J Jackson, Air conditioner, kitchen chair, refrigerator, TV stand.

The contents of each unit will be sold as a lot and all items must be removed from the premises within 72 hours. Owners may redeem their goods by paying all rent and charges due at any time before sale.

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SIGNS OF SPRING

Philadelphia
Pillow Fight

On April Fool's Day, Edible Forrest Urban Farm hosts its annual pillow fight in Washington Square Park, giving folks the chance to partake in the age-old sleepover game in the out of doors. The plan is to have pillow fighters show up just before 3 p.m. to blend into the crowd, and then break into the rumble flash mob style. Only a few rules apply: bring soft pillows, swing lightly, aim low and for goodness sake don't bop people who don't have a pillow in their hands.

April 1, 3-5 p.m. Washington Square Park
600 Walnut St. Free
[facebook.com/EdibleForrest](https://www.facebook.com/EdibleForrest)

Dance With
the Bride: Fool's
Night Out

Fundraising doesn't get much more fun than Painted Bride's annual April Fool's Day soiree Dance With the Bride. It's like a night at the circus, with stilt walkers, aerial silk trapeze artists, jugglers and music by a French accordion player and guitarist. On the food front, you've got a buffet-style meal of French delicacies and an open bar all night. If you're really raring to go, stick around for the after party that gets going at midnight with dancing and tunes from DJ



Tree Giveaway

Want to plant a new tree on your block this spring? You know you can get one for free, right? Starting this weekend, TreePhilly hosts a series of four pop-up locations where you can nab free trees, along with a gratis bag of mulch and tips on how to plant and care for your new treelet. There are 14 varieties to choose from—from shade trees to flowering trees and even fruit trees. Go to treephilly.org to get info about the two giveaway locations this weekend and on April 8 and 9. **April 1-2** Various locations, Free treephilly.org

4ocus. April 1, 7-midnight
Painted Bride Art Center
230 Vine St. \$100
paintedbride.org

Mural Arts 2017
Tours Kickoff

Mural Arts kicks off its 2017 tour season with two days of mini tours to give guests a taste of what's in store for the rest of the year. Among the abbreviated offerings to try

out this weekend are the Masterpieces East Trolley Tour to scope historic murals east of Broad; the Fishtown Street Art Walk Tour guided by Conrad Benner of Streets Dept.; and two hourlong sessions of the popular Mural Segway Tours. For the complete lineup, including starting locations and prices, visit muralarts.org/tours.

April 1-2 Various locations
muralarts.org

Subaru Cherry
Blossom Festival

Nothing says spring like the blooming cherry blossom trees that line Schuylkill River banks and dot Fairmount Park. To celebrate their arrival, the annual Subaru Cherry Blossom Festival kicks off with opening weekend festivities at Shofuso Japanese House and Garden—perhaps one of the best places to take in the splendid pink blooms. The festival comprises nine days of events celebrating Japanese culture, including the popular Sakura Sunday on April 9. For the full list of to-dos, check out subarucherryblossom.org.

April 1-9 Various locations
subarucherryblossom.org

MUSIC



Bon Jovi

Philadelphia's beloved Bon Jovi return to the Wells Fargo Center to not only share tunes from their recently released 13th studio album, "This House Is Not For Sale," but to introduce their adopted hometown to new band members, Phil X and Hugh McDonald. **March 31, 7:30 p.m.**
Wells Fargo Center, 3601 S. Broad St. \$19.75-\$545.00 wellsfargocenterphilly.com

The Beach Boys

The world's preeminent 1960s surfer rock group The Beach Boys are still going strong after nearly six decades in the music business—despite, of course, multiple switch-a-roos among band members. The "I Get Around" singers play two shows this Sunday at the Keswick—a matinee and one for the late-night crowd—with a mix of original members and new ones, including OGs Mike Love and Bruce Johnston.

April 1-2, 3 and 8 p.m.
Keswick Theatre
291 N. Keswick Ave.
\$49-\$79
keswicktheatre.com

SEX TALK

'Sex, Religion and
the Constitution'

"Sex and the Constitution" author Geoffrey Stone is a leading authority on the United States Constitution, and this week he swings through Philly for an enlightening lecture on how

mores surrounding sex and religion have informed constitutional decisions on everything from abortion and same-sex marriage to pornography. Auditorium seating is already sold out, but standby tickets will be available at the door starting at 11 a.m. on the day of the event. No luck? The discussion will also be streamed live at constitutioncenter.org/live
March 31, noon
National Constitution Center
525 Arch St. \$8
constitutioncenter.org
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The Beach Boys

The world's preeminent 1960s surfer rock group The Beach Boys are still going strong after nearly six decades in the music business—despite, of course, multiple switch-a-roos among band members. The "I Get Around" singers play two shows this Sunday at the Keswick—a matinee and one for the late-night crowd—with a mix of original members and new ones, including OGs Mike Love and Bruce Johnston. **April 1-2, 3 and 8 p.m.** Keswick Theatre 291 N. Keswick Ave. \$49.00-\$79, keswicktheatre.com

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE:

The following self-storage Cube contents containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by CubeSmart 777 Mayfair Street to satisfy a lien on 4/6/2017 at approx. 11:00 AM at www.storage treasures.com

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3108 Antoinette Marie Martin • 3127 Anthony Hill
3513 Celeste M Wilson-Lee • 4123 Ashley Davis • 4309 Demaris Bryant
4601 Jeremy Isaiah Johnson • 4604 Tiffany Marie Hinehine
4609 Cynthia D Fisher • 4622 Valerie Johnson • 4630 Lamont Williams
4713 Wanda Stuart • 5105 Monique Phelps

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#2316 - DELORES HUNTER - HOUSEHOLD • #1073 - CASSANDRA COOLEY
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The foodie side of Tampa

We found some of the essential eats and bars for your next trip to the Florida city.



There's a restaurant revolution happening in Tampa, with reliable old-school joints as well as new, edgy bistros.

Destination restaurants

We recommend starting with the venerable **Columbia Restaurant**. The downtown Ybor City staple has been a landmark on the Tampa scene for decades, combining history — its grand exterior features ornate tilework, while inside you'll find a tranquil Spanish-style courtyard — and fine dining.

At 52,000 square feet, the Columbia spans an entire city block, making it the largest Spanish restaurant in the world; and in this case, bigger is also better. The 1905 Salad, Columbia's birth year, is sublime, as is the grouper wrapped in pastry dough with



The Columbia Restaurant is a stately landmark on the Tampa food scene, serving Cuban food for over a century. **FUCKER @ FURIDMAN**

asparagus and red peppers. Columbia also makes a terrific Cuban sandwich (ham, roasted pork, Swiss cheese, pickles, mustard and salami on Cuban bread).

For a new-retro experience, go back in time with a visit to **Ciro's Speakeasy and Supper Club**. For entry, you must know the secret password, (obtained by calling the swanky establishment).

It's worth the effort. The staff sports Prohibition-era garb, and there's a cool secret room behind a bookcase.

Cuban food

The topic of who serves the best Cuban food in town is the center of much debate. The finest Cuban sandwich just might be served at the delightfully quirky **West Tampa Sandwich Shop**. The Obama Sandwich was born after the former president ordered a honey Cuban at the small but charming diner, a Cuban drizzled with honey, plus lettuce and tomatoes. You also can't go wrong with the chorizo sandwich or the plantain omelette.

Don't miss **La Segunda Central Bakery**, which has been in existence for more than a century. Its chewy, delicious Cuban

bread is a local treasure. The same could be said for the tasty guava turnovers and flan.

New eats on the block

As far as new restaurants go, **Ulele** is setting a standard. The building itself is a draw, a historic pumphouse that's been repurposed into a light-filled restaurant with huge windows overlooking a palm-strewn backyard. The only difficult decision is what to try. Do you request the pan-seared pompano, or the gouda grouper? Whatever you do, wash it down with the home-brewed honey lager.

For Mediterranean fare, **Haven** will not disappoint. The octopus carpaccio and the Wahoo ala Plancha (it's escargot, live a little!)

are worth the visit.

Cheers

According to USA Today, Tampa is the No. 3 beer city in the country, with over 30 craft breweries, and more are on tap.

Cigar City Brewing is not just a beer lover's destination. True beer geeks can take a behind-the-scenes tour of the brewery and see its equipment up close. The variety of their brews is staggering, which is apt since you'll be staggering well before last call. If you like sours, you won't go wrong with the Guava Passion Berliner at the Coppertail Brewing

Company, but don't skip the French Oak Black Cherry Porter.

The luxe Aloft Downtown Tampa offers libations at its modern cocktail lounge **WXYZ**, where the atmosphere is casual by day and sophisticated by night. Relax by the infinity edge pool, which overlooks the scenic Hillsborough River with a view of the Moorish minarets on the bucolic University of Tampa campus while a DJ spins during weekends.

Rooftop bars are all the rage in Tampa, too. Imbibe at **Fly Bar** or **The Refinery** in Seminole Heights, which is blowing up as the hipster destination of the city.



WXYZ Bar at Aloft Downtown **FACEBOOK**

Check out the world's most gorgeous blossom festivals.

Fodor's Travel

Matsumae Koen Park Cherry Blossom Festival

The *sakura* (cherry blossom) is Japan's national flower, and festivals have revered its beauty for nearly 1,500 years. Spring begins to bloom in February in Okinawa, then travels northward to Hokkaido, where the blossoms peak in early May. Of the dozens of Japanese festivals, Matsumae's may be the most magnificent. More than 10,000 cherry trees set among the 17th-century Matsumae Castle paint this seaside town on Japan's northernmost island of Hokkaido. Commencing with a grand parade, the festivities also feature local seafood, tea ceremonies, crafts, haiku competitions, fireworks and a karaoke contest. *Late April to mid-May*



Washington, D.C.'s Cherry Blossom Festival includes the nation's largest parade. GETTY IMAGES

National Cherry Blossom Festival

Washington, D.C.'s annual event, inaugurated in 1927, celebrates Japan's 1912 gift of 3,000 ornamental cherry trees. Highlights include the Blossom Kite Festival with handmade kite displays and competitions,

twilight photo safaris and Cherry Blossom Food Tours that show guests delectable dishes inspired by both cherries and the area's Japanese influence. The celebrations climax with the National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade — one of the nation's largest spectacles. *March-April*

Copenhagen Sakura Festival

In 2005, the Danish Honorary Consul of Hiroshima gave Copenhagen 200 flowering cherry trees to commemorate the bicentennial of beloved storyteller Hans Christian Andersen's birth. The festival locale Langelinie Park, home to the first plantings as well as the famous "Little Mermaid" statue inspired by an Andersen tale, appropriately resembles a fairy tale come to life. Traditional martial arts demonstrations, authentic folk dances, taiko drum performances and tea ceremonies enliven the proceedings. Free workshops highlight Japanese crafts like origami, calligraphy and ikebana (the art of flower arranging). *April*

North Carolina Azalea Festival

Founded in 1948, the North Carolina Azalea Festival in Wilmington is the state's largest event of its kind: a county fair

featuring a circus, competitions, celebrity headliners, galas and more. More than 200,000 celebrants attend the annual street fair and throng to watch the main parade. Over 1,000 volunteers help stage 50-plus events ranging from concerts to art contests to coin shows. Proud locals open their homes and gardens for tours. The traditional arrival of Queen Azalea opens the festivities, but the pink, lavender and white blossoms preen all spring long. *April*

Royal Azalea Festival

Sobaeksan, one of the 12 Sobaek Mountains skirting the border between Chungbuk Province and Gyeongbuk in South Korea, comprises a national park famed for its biodiversity, yew trees, wildflowers and royal azaleas. By late May, its peaks like Birobong, often compared to the Swiss Alps, seem to don a pale pink *jeogori* (traditional Korean jacket). Noted Confucian scholar Toegye Yi Hwang says it's like "walking through a color-

ful silk curtain as if I've arrived at an extravagant party." Various musical performances, activities and artisanal workshops celebrate the energetic qualities of the azalea. *Late May-Early June*

Canadian Tulip Festival

In gratitude for Canada providing safe harbor to the Dutch royal family during World War II, Princess Juliana presented Ottawa with 100,000 tulip bulbs. The Canadian capital has memorialized the gift for six decades through this fun fest where millions of tulips rim the iconic Rideau Canal. The entire city participates, with a virtual United Nations of neighborhoods from Little Italy to Chinatown offering their unique spin. Highlights include the black-tie Tulip Ball, the Floral Hair Competition, and kid-friendly happenings like a Tulip Treasure Hunt and the Mad Hatter Tea Party on Mother's Day. *May*

Countus Tulpenfestival

Noordoostpolder, an hour's drive northeast of Amsterdam in central Flevoland, is the Netherlands' youngest tulip-growing area, but one of its largest. You can drive, bike or hike during the annual Countus Tulpenfestival, which attracts over 50,000 visitors. Horse-drawn carriage tours and organized hikes also escort you along canals and over bridges to view the vividly hued tulip fields. The Centrum Amateurlust Flevoland's Passie in de Polder (Passion in the Polder) tours visit specially created art installations that interact with their surroundings. *April-May*

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Millions of tulips bloom and the entire city of Ottawa gets into the Canadian Tulip Festival. GETTY IMAGES

Weal proving he should part Flyers' future

The Flyers are relying more and more on youth.

ERIC GOLDSTEIN
@EricEsponda
sports@metro.us

Flyers general manager Ron Hextall has resisted the temptation to bring up any of his prized prospects who are playing for the AHL Lehigh Valley Phantoms. He prefers that they get experience playing in meaningful games for the Phantoms, who are expected to make the playoffs.

The one exception, though, is Jordan Weal.

Called up from the Phantoms on Feb. 10, the 24-year-old rookie has shown that his days in the minor leagues are likely over. Since joining the Flyers, he has combined his speed and strong stick-handling skills to tally six goals and two assists — and entered the roster picture for next year — in

18 games.

"I am trying to [gain more confidence every game]," Weal said. "I'm just watching film every day, seeing what I can continue to do better, trying to work as hard as I can and putting my best foot forward."

In Tuesday's come-from-behind 3-2 shootout victory over the Senators that kept the Flyers faint playoff hopes alive, Weal tied the game late in regulation and added the only goal in the shootout.

On his third-period goal, he intercepted a breakout pass from Senators goalie Craig Anderson by knocking the puck out of the air, controlling it and then scoring the equalizer. It was his second straight game with a goal and third in the last five games.

"I remember him shortly after he got here," fellow rookie Travis Konecny said. "He said, 'It's gonna happen, I can feel it. Then it's gon-



The Flyers' have been impressed with the maturity and development of Jordan Weal. NHL VIA GETTY IMAGES

na open the floodgates.' Sure enough, he's been hot ever since."

Playing on the second line with veterans Wayne Simmonds and Valtteri

Filppula, the former 2010 third-round pick is also seeing time on the second power play unit and getting shifts in over-time.

"He's earned everything he has got and he continues to do that on a daily basis," Flyers coach Hakstol said. "He's brought energy in his

own way and he's been a good two-way player. He's scored some big goals for us. He's a reliable player that generates and creates offensively."

Weal was with the Flyers last year but if you don't remember him it's understandable.

After being acquired last January in the trade that sent Luke Schenn and Vinny Lecavalier to the Kings, he played in only four games. Weal began this year with the Phantoms and was second in the AHL in scoring when the Flyers promoted him.

"I think from the start, from the first practice I had [with the Flyers], it just felt a little differently than it did last year," Weal said. "I was in Allentown playing every night and comfortable. Coming up here, I just felt like I could get right in the mix."

And it looks like he is going to remain in the mix.



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Ways to get drunk at Citizens Bank Park this Phillies' season

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Baseball games used to be known, alcoholwise at least, for serving plain old generic American beer.

And while the Phillies make it pretty simple to get a Bud Light almost anytime you want at Citizens Bank Park, they've continued to expand their adult beverage offerings just as they offer more and more gourmet food options.

After beginning to serve hard liquor and wine in 2015, things have continued to get more and more exciting for



Believe it or not, a beer aficionado would feel right at home at Citizens Bank Park. GETTY IMAGES

the casual and hard-core drinking Phillies fans alike.

1 Regular old beer

All across the stadium the Phils serve good old fashioned Bud and Bud Light, a big sponsor for the team. Other

conventional choices available throughout the stadium include Stella, Sam Adams, Goose Island and Angry Orchard hard cider. These options are the easiest to find and by far the cheapest.

2 Craft beer

The Phils have an impressively diverse and long list of craft beers offered in tucked away bars and kiosks throughout the ballpark. Highlights include: Troegs Troegenator, New Belgium Citradelic IPA and Victory Summer Love. The team seems to have a brew for every taste.

3 Wine

Chaddsford Winery will continue to offer a Phillies-branded red wine throughout the stadium as well as Beringer.

4 Hard stuff

The Phils have expanded their hard liquor offerings in 2017, with Bacardi rum, various Jim Beam products and Tito's Hand-made Vodka available for a bevy of mixed drinks.

5 Frozen drinks

The Phillies, for the first time in 2017, will offer frozen alcoholic drinks on hot summer nights. Frozen drink machines will be available throughout the concourse at every bar and will include margaritas and daiquiris.

Phillies 2017 theme nights include 'Star Trek,' 'Game of Thrones,' 'Charlie Brown'

The Phillies are expected to take a step forward on the field in 2017, perhaps knocking on the door of contention with an ambitious and talented young club.

With an improved product on the field, the Phillies are also giving fans a bevy of other reasons (including an incredible variety of gourmet food options) to visit the ballpark this spring and summer. One of these is the team's "Theme Nights."

The Phillies are holding special events at the stadium during games for fans who purchase a theme night ticket. On July 3 against the Pirates, the team will hold "Game of Thrones" Night at what they are calling Castle Citizens Bank for an "epic night." Two nights later the team will celebrate the 50th anniversary of "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown" with a Phillies-Charlie Brown bobblehead. And on "Star Trek" Night — later in the season on Sept. 26 against the Nationals, the team will offer a Phillies Captain Picard bobblehead.

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Ranking Eagles positions in order of need

Where do the Eagles need to focus their off-season efforts?



EVAN MACY
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The Eagles have some big needs as the NFL draft approaches at the end of April. But they can't address everything.

They have eight picks in the college entry draft, taking place April 27-29 in Fairmount Park in Philly. They also have limited salary cap space — and are technically over the limit.

Here's a quick status report on the Eagles position groups, and a ranking of the team's most pressing needs:

1. Cornerback

Jalen Mills and Patrick



The Eagles have been linked to nearly every free agent and NFL draft running back prospect this offseason. GETTY IMAGES

Robinson would start at corner with Ron Brooks at nickel if the season began today. It's a good thing it doesn't. The Eagles surely will pick from one of the deepest cornerback-filled drafts in recent memory, possibly more than once.

2. Running back

The depth chart isn't technically weak at running back, with Ryan Mathews, Darren Sproles and Wendell Smallwood each returning in 2017, but there doesn't seem to be a no-brainer, long-term solution. If the team picks

based on best available and not on need, Dalvin Cook or Christian McCaffrey could end up in Philly.

3. Wide receiver

Philly inked two really high-ceiling band aids with (essentially) inking one year deals earlier

this month with Alshon Jeffery and Torrey Smith. With Jordan Matthews slotting into the third spot, the wideout group is strong, but like running back there is little clarity long term. If Philly has a chance to take Mike Williams or John Ross, they might just have to.

4. Linebacker

Mychal Kendricks remains with the Eagles despite trade rumors and a lack of fit in the team's scheme. They are strong at linebacker, led by third year returnee Jordan Hicks. Nigel Bradham and Najee Goode are also solid but they need more depth.

5. Defensive line

Another really strong position group with little depth, the defensive line lost Bennie Logan and Connor Barwin this past month and will rely on

Beau Allen up the middle along Newly signed Chris Long is an outside pass-rusher. A young player with high-upside would be a nice get in a middle round to help the D-line.

6. Offensive line

After signing Chance Warmack, a possible starting guard, Philly looks to have a solid front five with Lane Johnson and Jason Peters returning healthy and Jason Kelce at Center. But this group is aging and a youth injection would be smart.

7, 8, 9, 10...

And not, in no real particular order, we reach the Eagles four biggest strengths. The Birds have a stellar safety tandem, an up and coming young quarterback, two potent big-play tight ends and one of the NFL's best special teams units.

Eagles asking to play their two Los Angeles games back-to-back

The Eagles' official schedule doesn't come out for a few more weeks, but the team as known its 2017 opponents since the end of last season, and with the recent shuffling of NFL teams out west, they know they will be playing both the Rams and the Chargers in Los Angeles.

Doug Pederson, who made remarks to the media Wednesday in Phoenix, said he requested to the league that the two games come back-to-back.

This would allow the Birds to stay in L.A. for two entire weeks without needing to fly five hours home and then five hours back.

A few other details were disclosed by Pederson — who spent much of the discussion with media members talking about Carson Wentz and the upcoming draft — including when OTAs begin.

"Carson will be ready to go April 17," Pederson said. "He will be on that field. For him coming in the second year from a leadership standpoint and as quarterback, he's the face of the franchise



Doug Pederson is enthused to get back to work on April 17. GETTY IMAGES

and he embraces that. It will be big in terms of the way he talks and handles the guys around him offensively. He is obviously capable of doing that. And too, by him going through 16 games last year there's a level of maturity we are always looking to improve."

Wentz has had a relaxing but busy summer, from working out with Latavius Murray out west to hunting all over the country to sitting back and watching the Eagles collect weapons for him like Alshon Jeffery and Torrey Smith. Pederson doesn't expect things to

change much in 2017, knowing full-well his success in the NFL as a head coach is directly tied to the performance of his young quarterback.

"I know Carson. I know his chemistry and his makeup," the coach said. "I am not concerned."

He also is optimistic about the team's win total in 2017 even before the release of the official slate and date of games. Last year's 7-9 record was not good enough.

"We want to be better than that," he said. "We will be better than that."

EVAN MACY

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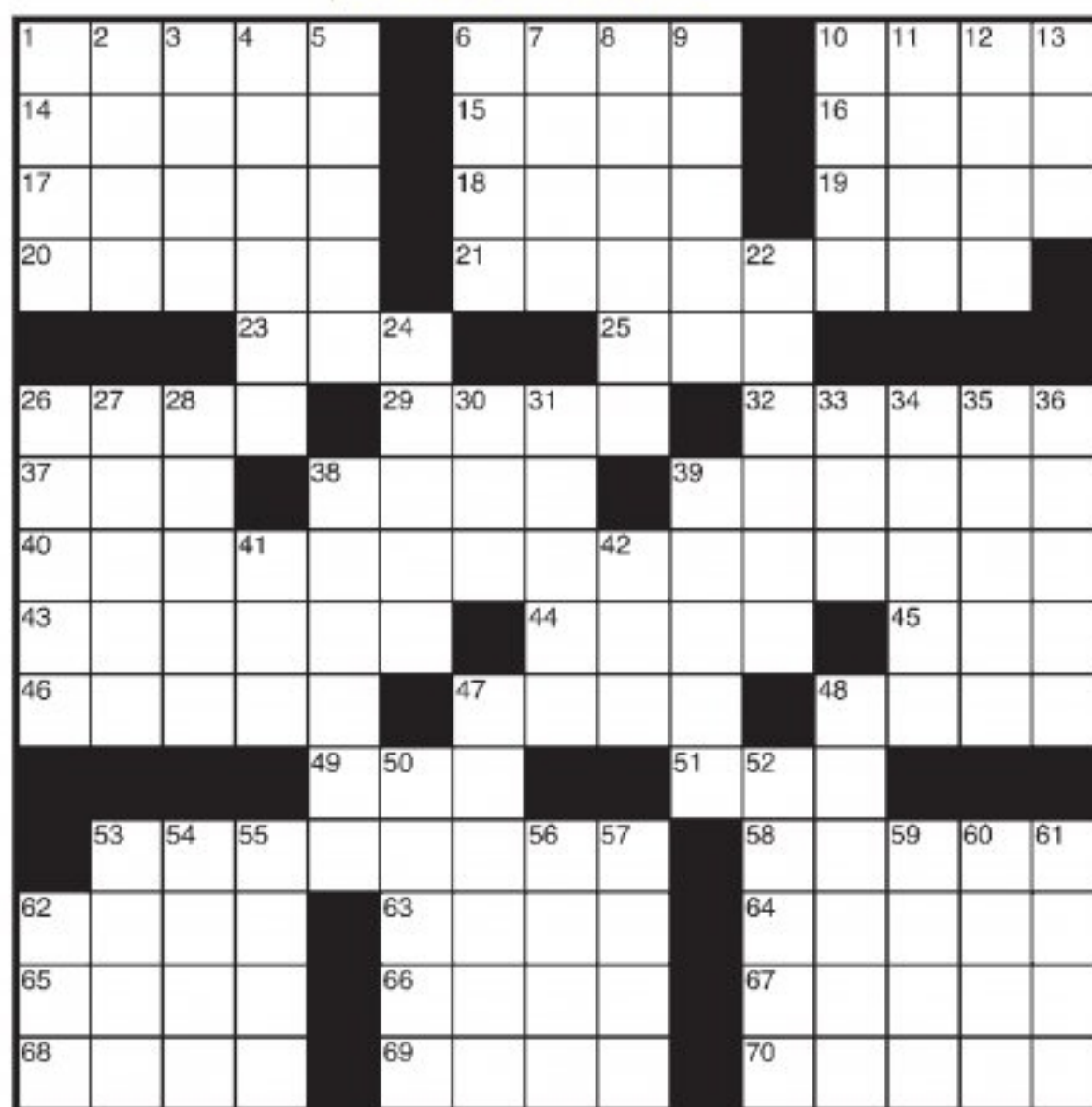
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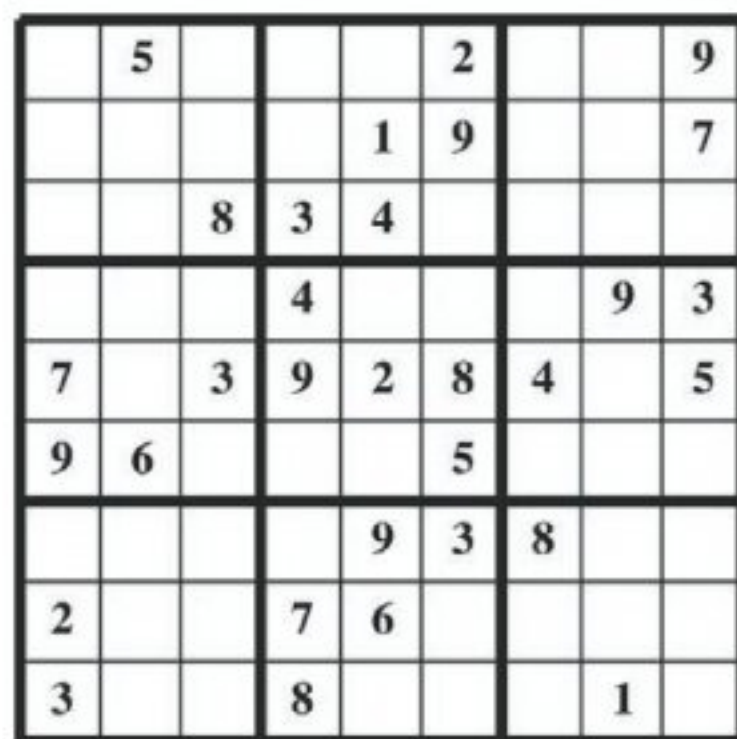
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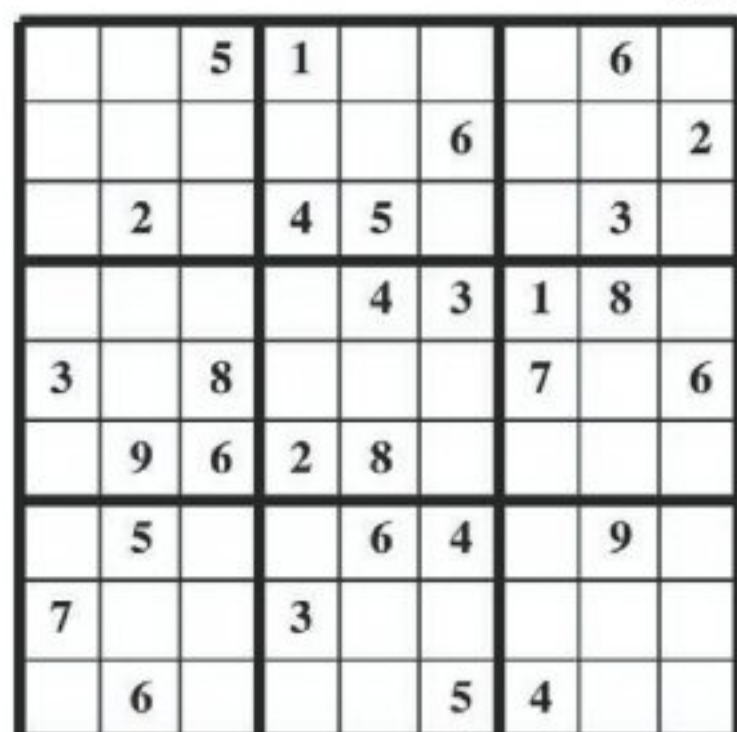


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Aries A change may be required, but you should look before you leap. Not every opportunity will be as equally beneficial. Question what's being offered.



Taurus Emotions will surface, forcing you to take part in situations that concern you. Voice your opinion, but be sure to have facts to back up your allegations.



Gemini The changes you enforce now will set a standard for what's to come. If you want to bring about greater stability, believe in the quality of your plans.



Cancer An old partner will be your savior if you listen to the warnings being offered. Be cognizant of someone trying to benefit at your expense.



Leo Use your energy wisely and control your emotions in situations that can influence your reputation. Be prepared to make reasonable compromises.



Virgo Get involved in functions that interest you and take part in challenges that will encourage you to work alongside like-minded individuals.



Libra Domestic, personal and joint finances look promising, as long as you don't go over your budget. Common sense will help you avoid stressful financial issues.



Scorpio Communication with someone you deem responsible and hard-working will help you assess your situation and come to terms with what needs to be done.



Sagittarius At networking functions, you will be tempted to make promises you may not be able to keep. Stay focused on what is and isn't doable to avoid embarrassment.



Capricorn Assess your situation and evaluate your relationships with individuals who have behaved erratically. Stay focused on obtaining greater stability in your personal life.



Aquarius Helping others can be healing, but can also lead to you being taken for granted. Set boundaries so you don't wind up resentful.



Pisces What you do for others will be appreciated and reciprocated. Compromise will help you overcome any concerns you have about what's fair. EUGENIA LAST

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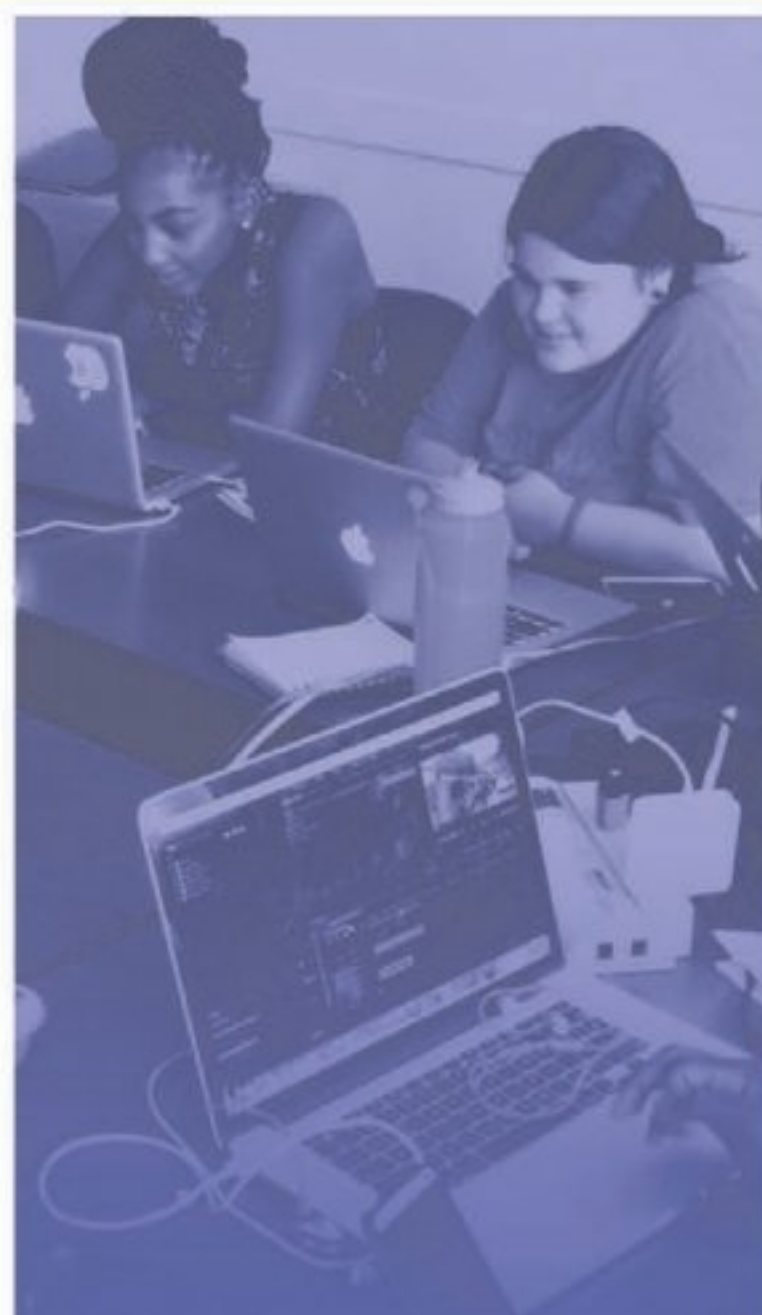
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